

Clark County Coroner
1704 Pinto Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89106
(702) 455-3210



AUTOPSY REPORT

Case Number: [REDACTED]

October 3, 2017

AUTOPSY REPORT

PATHOLOGIC EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF




DIAGNOSES

1. Gunshot Wound of the Right Upper Chest, Penetrating (see injury description).
2. Hemopneumothorax, Right, Chest.
3. Mediastinal Hemorrhage, Chest.
4. Aspiration of Blood, Lungs.
5. Pale Internal Organs consistent with Acute Blood Loss.

OPINION

CAUSE OF DEATH: The cause of death of this [REDACTED]-year-old [REDACTED] female, [REDACTED] is GUNSHOT WOUND OF THE RIGHT UPPER CHEST.

MANNER OF DEATH: HOMICIDE.



Lary Simms, DO, MPH (DABP-AP, CP, FP)
Medical Examiner
Clark County, Nevada (Las Vegas)

DATE: Dec 20 2017

LS/kra/amu

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Case Number: [REDACTED]

October 3, 2017

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF

[REDACTED]

NOTICE: Forensic, medical and scientific evidence as proof of a fact can establish that fact to an extent varying between slight possibility to certainty. The minimal standard of proof for all conclusions in this report is to a reasonable degree of scientific, medical and forensic certainty; the degree of certainty for any given conclusion in this report can range from this lowest standard of certainty up to beyond a reasonable doubt.

The manner of death is based on the information available at the time of signature.

AUTOPSY: Date of pronounced death is October 1, 2017. The autopsy is performed by Lary Simms, DO, MPH, Medical Examiner, at 1320 hours, October 3, 2017.

CLOTHING: The body is received unclothed; a paper identification tag is present on the right wrist. Accompanying the body is a hospital gown.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION: The body is that of a normally developed [REDACTED] adult. Rigor mortis is minimal and symmetrical. Lividity is present posteriorly. The head hair is dark and long. The unshaved scalp is unremarkable. The eyes are closed. The corneas are cloudy. The irides are light. The nose, lips and mouth are unremarkable. The teeth are natural and in fair repair. No injuries are identified to the external neck. The chest is unremarkable. The abdomen demonstrates striae, but is otherwise unremarkable. The extremities are equally and symmetrically developed. The arms and hands show no evidence of acute injury. Fingerprint ink is present on the hands bilaterally. The fingernails and toenails are medium in length and the toenails demonstrate decoration. The external genitalia are female and are otherwise unremarkable. The back and buttocks show no evidence of natural disease.

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INVENTORY OF TATTOOS:

COMMENT: Multiple tattoos are present, some of which are as follows:

1. Writing located in the left lower arm.
2. A snail located on top of the right foot.

INVENTORY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT:

1. An intravenous catheter is present in the top of the right foot.

INVENTORY OF RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS:

COMMENT: Digital radiographs are interpreted on an ENTUITIVE monitor; extracorporeal objects are present; acute and remote medical intervention is present.

1. Postmortem regional radiographs of the head and neck are unremarkable.
2. Postmortem regional radiograph of the chest demonstrates opacification of the right lung field associated with pneumothorax; a deformed small caliber bullet is projected over the central thoracic vertebral column associated with ballistically insignificant bullet fragments; the mediastinum demonstrates a right-to-left shift; the soft tissues of the chest demonstrate broad areas of air.
3. Postmortem regional radiographs of the abdomen and pelvis are unremarkable.
4. Postmortem regional radiographs of the extremities demonstrate soft tissue air in the right arm.



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INVENTORY OF GUNSHOT INJURY:

1. Located in the **right upper chest** 12.6 inches from the top of the head and 2.7 inches to the right of the midline is a gunshot wound of entrance measuring 0.22 inch in dimension; the wound is composed of an eccentric hole measuring 0.12 inch in dimension associated with eccentric abrasion collar measuring up to 0.05 inch in dimension.

The bullet courses through the skin and subcutaneous tissues of the right upper chest and enters the right pleural cavity through the 2nd rib; the bullet courses through the right upper lobe, the right lower lobe and the hilum of the right lung and exits from the right pleural cavity through the 6th paravertebral intercostal space.

A deformed small caliber jacketed hollow point bullet is recovered from the soft tissues of the central back associated with an overlying irregular cutaneous 1.3 inch ecchymosis.

The right pleural cavity demonstrates 1000 ml of liquid blood and 50 grams of clot; the mediastinum demonstrates hemorrhage.

The bullet courses from front-to-back and right-to-left directly. Examination of wound of entrance shows no evidence of close-range firing.

INVENTORY OF ADDITIONAL FINDINGS:

1. The arms bilaterally demonstrate scattered irregular and curvilinear hyperpigmented and hypopigmented areas.
2. The legs bilaterally demonstrate scattered irregular and curvilinear hyperpigmented and hypopigmented areas.

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3. The arms bilaterally demonstrate scattered needle punctures.
4. The abdomen demonstrates scattered curvilinear hypopigmented areas.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

MEASUREMENTS AND WEIGHTS (approximate/estimate only):

Height: 73 inches
Weight: 293 pounds
Heart: 305 grams
Lungs: 850 grams
Liver: 1750 grams
Spleen: 130 grams
Kidneys: 280 grams
Brain: 1390 grams

BODY CAVITIES: The body is entered by a Y-shaped incision. Except for the findings previously described, the peritoneal surfaces of the body cavities are remarkable. The internal organs that are present retain their normal anatomic position and relationships.

NECK ORGANS: The tongue shows no external injury and on serial sectioning is unremarkable. The surfaces of the epiglottis show no abnormalities.

The suprahyoid and infrahyoid (strap) muscles of the neck are dissected in layers and show no evidence of antemortem hemorrhage.

The hyoid bone is dissected. The synchondroses of the hyoid bone are partially fused and intact. The greater horns of the hyoid bone show no evidence of fracture or periosteal hemorrhage.



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The thyroid cartilage is dissected. The superior horns and laminae show no evidence of fracture or perichondral hemorrhage.

The cricoid cartilage ring is dissected. The cricothyroid membrane shows no evidence of hemorrhage. The cricoid cartilage shows no evidence of fracture or perichondral hemorrhage.

The prevertebral soft tissue and muscles of the cervical vertebral column show no evidence of antemortem hemorrhage. The anterior cervical vertebral column shows no evidence of hemorrhage, fracture or dislocation.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The aorta and great vessels demonstrate yellow streaking. The coronary arteries have a normal surface course and configuration; the coronary circulation is right dominant. On serial sectioning the left coronary artery system and the right coronary artery system exhibit no significant pathologic changes.

The valves of the heart are unremarkable. The ventricular chambers are unremarkable. On serial sectioning the myocardium displays no focal pathologic changes.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: The trachea and major bronchi demonstrate aspirated blood. The pulmonary vessels are unobstructed. On serial sectioning the pulmonary parenchyma demonstrates aspirated blood associated with generalized edema.

HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM: The capsular surface of the liver is smooth and without adhesions. On serial sectioning the hepatic parenchyma has a pale tan-yellow color and a firm consistency. The gallbladder and biliary tract are unremarkable.

HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM: The capsular surface of the spleen is smooth and without adhesions. On serial sectioning the splenic parenchyma is pale and otherwise unremarkable. The internal lymph nodes identified are unremarkable.

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GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: The esophagus is unremarkable. Stomach content is 200 milliliters of red-brown fluid. The stomach, small bowel and colon are unremarkable. The pancreas has a normal size and on serial sectioning is pale.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: The renal surfaces are granular. On serial sectioning the renal cortex is pale and has normal thickness. The calyces, pelves and ureters are unremarkable.

The uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries are present and unremarkable. The endometrium is unremarkable.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: The thyroid gland has a normal size and on serial sectioning is pale and is otherwise unremarkable. The adrenal glands have a normal size and on serial sectioning are pale and otherwise unremarkable. The rest of the endocrine system shows no identifiable abnormalities.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: The scalp, subscalp soft tissue and calvaria show no evidence of injury. On entering the cranial cavity the membranous compartments are free of hemorrhage. The leptomeninges and the surfaces of the cerebral hemispheres are unremarkable. The vessels at the base of the brain have a normal configuration. The base of the skull shows no evidence of injury. On serial sectioning the brain is pale and reveals no grossly visible changes of natural disease.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE RECOVERY AND DISPOSITION:

1. A small caliber deformed partial metal jacket bullet recovered from the central back to custody of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

FLUIDS AND TISSUES SUBMITTED:

1. Postmortem chest blood.
2. Vitreous humor.
3. Liver tissue.

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4. Brain tissue.
5. Autopsy tissue to stock.

TESTING ORDERED:

1. Toxicologic analysis [NMS: Basic] on autopsy blood.